

Election to the Committee on Estimates.

Sri K. HANUMANTHAIYA (Leader of the House).—Sir, I move :

“ That this Assembly do proceed to the election of twelve members to the Committee on Estimates in accordance with rule 137 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mysore Legislative Assembly. ”

Mr. SPEAKER.—The question is :

“ That this Assembly do proceed to the election of twelve members to the Committee on Estimates in accordance with rule 137 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mysore Legislative Assembly. ”

The motion was adopted.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Chair desires to inform the House that for the purpose of election of twelve members to the Committee on Estimates, the office of the Secretary will be open to receive notice of candidature up to 3 P.M. on Thursday the 3rd July 1952 and that the election, if necessary, will take place on Tuesday the 8th July 1952, in the Secretary's room between the hours of 3 P.M. and 5 P.M. The election will be conducted as laid down in sub-rule (2) of rule 137 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mysore Legislative Assembly in accordance with the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

BUDGET FOR 1952-53

First Stage—General Discussion

Mr. SPEAKER.—Now the General Discussion on the Budget will commence.

Sri V. M. MASCARENHAS (St. John's Hill).—

Sir, one welcome feature of the Budget is that it does not contemplate any fresh taxation. As the Finance Minister has rightly observed, human nature is

generally against any form of taxation. His efforts to balance the Budget, in spite of the deficit, without having recourse to fresh taxation, is to be commended. Looking into these Budgets, one cannot help observing that year by year larger sums of money are needed specially on capital account. Routine administration has to go on. Nation-building departments have to be given greater and greater attention. Larger sums of money have to be provided for capital works. With the result that one is tempted to ask, whither and how long ? In the midst of these difficulties, the Finance Minister has chosen the right path. No activity has been neglected or forgotten and larger sums of money have been allotted to long range schemes which I hope will give the needed relief. For all these, he deserves our congratulations.

A perusal of his budget speech reveals that the tasks before the Government today are varied and immense requiring large sums of money. Our resources are limited. For raising money in the market either by means of public loan or by shares, the chances are remote indeed. With the result that our dependence on the Centre becomes more and more and unless the Centre comes to our rescue, I am afraid progress cannot be appreciable. Under such circumstances, it becomes necessary for us to ask, what schemes or what undertakings should receive higher priority than others. I would say the question of food and housing must have the highest priority. Hunger and famine must at all costs be kept away. This has been done in the past for the last so many years, and I have every confidence that the present Government also will rise up to our expectations and keep this hunger and famine away. Let us hope and pray that the rains which have so far not come may come in the near future and bring cheer and hope to the farmer of the State.

General satisfaction has been felt all over the country over the recent food policy initiated by the Government. Farmers are happy and as a result we should get better crops next year. But it should be remembered, as I have